

**St. Johns Public Schools
St. Johns, Michigan
Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held on September 28, 2020**

The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education met in regular session on Monday, September 28, 2020, in a virtual setting using Zoom. President Darragh called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Zoom url:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87445369781?pwd=Qjg5MW9iYitjeDdPNGZycGFXSXF0UT09>

Members Present: Darragh, Dedyne, Drabek, Hallead , Jackson, Nelson, Watson

ATTENDANCE

Members Absent: Student Representative Kiel

Motion by Member Nelson, with support by Member Jackson, to approve the agenda. Agenda unanimously approved as presented, via a 7-0 roll call vote

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion by Member Neslon, with support by Member Hallead, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from the meeting held on September 14, 2020. Motion unanimously approved, via a 7-0 roll call vote.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Superintendent Palmer provided the Board of Education with the required Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan. The plan must be submitted to CCRESA for approval no later than October 1, 2020. There were no questions about the plan from the Board of Education.

**REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN**

Several St. Johns Public Schools teachers shared their thoughts, frustrations and concerns regarding virtual and face-to-face instruction. They would like to have one all-virtual day per week, instead of just the ones that are currently scheduled. Eleventh grade student, Lauren Beck, shared that she likes the virtual days, as it gives students a chance to catch up and focus on their school work.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Director of Business and Finance, Kelly Corbett, provided the Board of Education with the most recent information she had concerning the budget and state aid. She added that she is still wading through the information that was just passed by the State of Michigan legislature. Member Nelson asked when we could expect the governor to sign the budget, and Kelly replied that she would hopefully sign it later in the week. Member Hallead thanked Kelly for her work on the “rollercoaster” budget.

**REPORTS AND
INFORMATION
GENERAL BUDGET UPDATE**

The term expires for a member of the Briggs District Library Board on December 31, 2020. They are requesting approval of the appointment of Terrilynn Voisin to the open seat.

**BRIGGS DISTRICT LIBRARY
BOARD APPOINTMENT
REQUEST**

Member Nelson asked if the comments from the staff are addressed in the plan, and Superintendent Palmer replied that they are not necessarily addressed in this version of the plan, but that he will consider what is and what is not working in next month's version. President Darragh would like to see where we are at as soon as possible so parents have time to make (daycare) plans, if necessary. Member Jackson suggested this item be included with the budget workshop, as it affects the budget.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN**

Technology Director Wendy Andrzejewski, reviewed information for a request to purchase 25 laptops and 20 docking stations for the district. The laptops and docking stations to be replaced will be repurposed into the loaner pool. We will be using SPOT bid pricing that expires on September 30, 2020, so this item appears at an action item at this meeting.

**LAPTOP PURCHASE
RECOMMENDATION**

The Board of Education decided the date and time of October 5, 2020 at 7:00 pm, for the budget workshop.

**BOARD BUDGET
WORKSHOP**

Motion by Member Hallead, with support by Member Nelson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the consent grouping Number VIII-A1, B1, C1, C2. and D1. Motion approved unanimously, via a 6-0 roll call vote. Secretary Dedyne was having difficulty with audio, so her vote was not recorded.

**APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
GROUPING
ITEMS**

Approved expenditures for the payment of bills for August, 2020:

PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund	\$2,255,930.75
Food Service Fund	\$24,676.38
Activity Fund	\$10,496.00
1998 Debt Fund	\$1,069.21
2020 Refunding	\$500.00
2013 Refunding	\$427.33
2014 Refunding	\$6,803.85
2010 (QSCB) Series A Debt Fund	\$714.01
2010 (BAB) Series B Debt Fund	\$0.90
Public Improvement Fund	\$0.00
Energy Bond Construction	\$850.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,301,468.43

Approved the hiring of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee:
Dakota Martens – High School Custodian

NEW HIRE APPROVAL

Approved the resignation of the following St. Johns Public Schools employees:
Lindsie Grieve – Childcare Provider, Stephanie Smith – Bus Driver

RESIGNATION APPROVAL

Approved the termination of the following St. Johns Public Schools employee:
Jose Guajardo – High School Custodian

TERMINATION APPROVAL

Motion by Member Nelson, with support by Member Jackson, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the Extended COVID-19

**ACTION ITEMS
EXTENDED COVID-19
LEARNING PLAN APPROVAL**

Learning Plan. President Darragh and Member Jackson would like the concerns of the staff addressed in the next update of the ECOL plan. Motion approved unanimously, via a 6-0 roll call vote. Secretary Dedyne was having difficulty with audio, so her vote was not recorded.

Motion by Member Hallead, with support by Vice-President Drabek, that the St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education approve the request to purchase staff laptops and docking stations in the amount of \$20,700.00, and repurposing the old staff laptops and docking stations to the loaner pool, as presented. Motion approved unanimously, via a 6-0 roll call vote. Secretary Dedyne was having difficulty with audio, so her vote was not recorded.

**LAPTOP PURCHASE
RECOMMENDATION
APPROVAL**

Superintendent Palmer reviewed his written report. The health department has been keeping us well informed with information and statistics related to COVID-19. He recognized the passing of retired teacher, Ken Osentoski. He also said that he will look at the data and assess what we can do differently with the ECOL plan as we move forward; the students and staff have been very cooperative. Member Nelson asked when we will be able to meet in person again for meetings. Member Hallead shared that she has heard from colleagues that Athletic Director, Chris Ervin, was instrumental in getting things moving forward regarding athletics this year, and appreciates the wonderful job Chris and his colleagues have done.

**BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Josh Heethuis and other teachers present at the meeting acknowledged the great job students are doing, as well as the staff, Mr. Heethuis appreciates how well the administration and board is taking stock in the employees. He also acknowledged how everyone is going above and beyond to make this work. Many teachers again shared their concerns, and support of adding more all-virtual instruction days.

**PUBLIC AND BOARD
COMMENTS**

Curriculum Director Jason Gnegy, has been in contact with Secretary Dedyne throughout the meeting, and she apologizes for the technical difficulties, but that she has been listening and understands the issues. Several members of the Board of Education expressed their appreciation for the input, and everything everyone has done with this unprecedented year.

President Darragh adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Dedyne, Secretary
St. Johns Board of Education
Minutes submitted by: Michelle Gorby, Recording Secretary